#### VICTIM/WITNESS SECTION

#### SPECIAL EMPHASIS VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

# **Program Description**

This program provides additional grant assistance for *funded Victim/Witness Assistance Centers* to provide direct services and outreach to special crime victims and underserved populations. Special crime victims are defined as individuals who have been victimized by a specific violent crime and who are presently underserved in the community. Special crime victims need not necessarily be a minority population, but may include family members of homicide victims, drunk driving victims and their families, or the elderly and dependant adults.

## **Eligibility**

To receive funding under this program, applicants must be designated by their local County Board of Supervisors as the County's Victim Witness Assistance Center and be either a local unit of government or a non-profit organization.

#### **Authorized By**

Federal Victims of Crime Act and the California State Legislature

#### **Fund Source and Amount**

Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) - \$1,589,500 for seventeen (17) projects

## **Grant Award Period**

July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009: Thirteen (13) projects October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009: Four (4) projects

#### **Next Competitive/Non Competitive Application Due Date**

For the FY 2009/2009 fund year, this is a non competitive application already in progress

#### **Additional Program Information**

The projects funded under this program are required to establish and maintain the following service components: crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource and referral, counseling, claims assistance, property return, orientation to the criminal justice system, presentations and training, case status/disposition, notifications of family/friends, employer notification/intervention, restitution, outreach, volunteers, and training.

#### **How Do I Get More Information?**

This program is administered by the Victim/Witness Section in the Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Victim/Witness Branch of OES at (916) 324-9205.